

Edwin P. Rayner

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

accomplished together during these years.

(1.) In respect of this edifice of the Old Church and the other outward appliances for our activities.

may recall this room as it was that first Sunday in July seventeen years ago—the grand old hall.

the ancient windows, with their many small panes of glass, cracked here and there, the sashes shrunk with age and rattling when the wind blew; the walls covered with the yellow marbled paper; the old stiff benches in the galleries, and dark painted gallery front; the worn, gray pew cushions, showing many of them the quality of material they were stuffed with; the curving pulpit steps and the great height of the pulpit.

There was the lecture-room, without cloak-rooms, with rough uncarpeted floor, seated with narrow, hard, uncushioned benches, warmed with unsightly stoves. Town meetings and political primaries were commonly held there. The Sunday-school met in the body of the church.

The grounds lay shaded indeed with these same magnificent trees, but, as respects their surface, just as they had been left when last they were used for Deacon Davis's cow pastures, save that weeds had largely superseded the grass.

We had gone on together but two months when you resolved to renovate the church building. The whole inside of the house was taken out, the very plastering from the walls; the galleries were reconstructed and arranged in boxes, and seated with chairs of

boxes, and seated with chairs for the Sunday-school. The walls were frescoed, the ancient sashes gave place to modern stained glass, the stone circle was laid about the door, and the grounds graded and paths made. The whole cost was \$8,400, and took between three and four months, during which time we worshipped in the old lecture-room in the morning, and joined, by their very generous invitation, with the Westminster Church in the evening, Dr. Kennedy, their pastor, and I preaching.

We first occupied the church again December 27, 1874. A Christmas sermon was preached in the morning and in the evening the Westminster congregation united with us in a congratulatory praise service.

The Sunday-school was accommodated after this in the galleries, the Super-

endent standing over the clock.

[illegible]

This block contains a very faint, low-contrast scan of a document page. It appears to be a technical drawing or a map, with some illegible markings and shapes scattered across the surface. The overall quality is poor, making it difficult to discern specific details.